

I oppose efforts to limit satellite radio's ability to offer local services such as traffic and weather. In XM's case, for example, I consider the traffic and weather to be a supplement but not replacement for local broadcasters. Broadcast stations offer traffic and weather mixed with other news to keep listeners through the hour; XM's services are 24-hour traffic and weather, and listeners will visit only a short time before returning to another XM channel or broadcast.

For me, since I do not live in one of the markets covered by XM's traffic channels, it provides an important service. I live in Sacramento and drive periodically to the San Francisco Bay Area; XM's new service enables me to get an overview of traffic on the road ahead before I can reliably get a Bay Area station. I then have time to plan any necessary route changes.

I enjoy satellite radio tremendously and believe it has excellent potential to serve Americans everywhere with technological advancements. I urge you to allow it to reach that potential.